

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, In 1920, La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux, The Society of Forty Men and Eight Horses, popularly known as the Forty Et Eight was organized as an honor society by World War I veterans; and,

Whereas, A child welfare program was founded in 1923 to help the children of the fathers who never returned after the "Big War." The efforts of our Voyageur members continually helps hundreds of children annually; and,

Whereas, Forty and Eighters annually visit schools across South Dakota with the "Flags for First Graders Program", teaching patriotism and respect for the flag upholding their slogan, "Services during War, Charity during Peace"; and,

Whereas, In 1955, Voyageurs recognized the shortage of registered nurses and began providing scholarships, grants, and interest free loans to enrolled students; and,

Whereas, The Voyageur Militaire of the Forty and Eight ask only to serve their fellow human beings and to provide our children with a safe, free land of opportunity; and,

Whereas, The annual convention will be held July 18–20, 2008, in Pierre, South Dakota, where Grand du South Dakota Chef de Gare Preston R. Olson will be recognized for his leadership and the invaluable services provided by the Forty and Eighters across South Dakota will be celebrated:

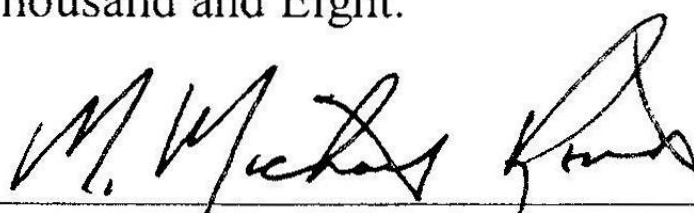
Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim July 19 – 25, 2008, as

FORTY AND EIGHT WEEK

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Sixteenth Day of July in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eight.


M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State